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EAST GERMANY - WEST GERMANY: Negotiators Kohl and Bahr last week made considerable progress on secondary issues but remained far apart on the major ones.

Kohl opened the discussions for Pankow by stating that the two sides had "converged" on several important points and that the talks should be upgraded to formal treaty negotiations. He agreed that two of Bonn's basic interests--self-determination for the German peoples and "human rights"--would be proper topics for negotiation. Kohl dropped his earlier demand that Bonn agree to an exchange of ambassadors and added that Pankow would implement "extensive" inter-German travel improvements following Bonn's ratification of the general traffic treaty. Bahr responded that he would not enter into formal negotiations without indications that agreement could be reached on the "special relationship" issue.

Bonn's demand that a treaty must allude to the single German nation concept remains the major obstacle. It was apparently to strengthen Pankow's rejection of this idea that East German Foreign Minister Winzer took the unprecedented step of personally meeting with Bahr and expounding Pankow's position. Winzer stated that the two sides obviously would not be able to agree on the matter and that it was not necessary to do so. In an apparent effort to soften Winzer's hard line, Kohl later told Bahr that Winzer's willingness to discuss the issue in the future left open the possibility of compromise.

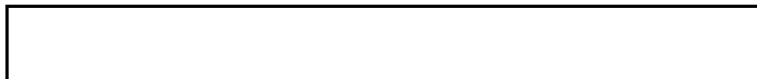
Pankow seems to have adopted the tactic of offering to negotiate on topics where agreement appears likely, while avoiding more contentious ones. In addition to Winzer's effort to sidetrack the German nation problem, Kohl suggested that the problem of the rights of the Four Powers be left to them and that a treaty deal with the subject in a clause simply stating that postwar agreements involving the two Germanies are still valid.

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Both sides appear anxious to maintain momentum in their next series of talks, scheduled to begin on 2 August. In his subsequent discussions with the allied representatives in Bonn, Bahr said that he favors dealing with the less contentious issues before tackling the major ones. Bahr noted that Kohl did not repeat his earlier threat to "slow down" the talks if Bonn continued its international discrimination against East Germany. Bahr also stated that he hoped to be able to enter into formal negotiations by mid-August.

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INDIA-PAKISTAN: The Gandhi-Bhutto summit concluded Sunday with an agreement to restore and normalize relations but further negotiations are required on key issues.

In a joint statement released this morning after five days of difficult bargaining at Simla, India, the two sides agreed to the withdrawal of their troops from territory south of Kashmir which was occupied during the December war. The pull-back reportedly will be delayed, however, until the agreement is ratified by the Pakistan National Assembly--slated to convene on 14 August--in accord with President Bhutto's promise to submit such decisions to the assembly. In Kashmir, the 1949 cease-fire line with recent modifications will be maintained.

The agreement also calls for renunciation of force as a means of settling disputes and endorses the bilateral approach in future negotiations. Discussions aimed at settling the all-important Kashmir issue will be held at an unspecified future date. Pakistan's concession of its preference for third-party mediation may have been a trade-off for India's apparent willingness to shelve the Kashmir problem for the present.

India went to the summit determined to seek a package settlement, including Pakistan's recognition of the Kashmir cease-fire line as an international boundary. Pakistan wanted a step-by-step approach beginning with relatively minor issues. India, by agreeing to troop withdrawal, apparently backed off somewhat from its position and allowed Bhutto to return home with evidence of bargaining success.

Restoration of diplomatic relations, and the resumption of communication links and trade relations, however, await further negotiation. The joint statement, also alluded to future official-level meetings to discuss the repatriation of prisoners of war. Repatriation of the 93,000 Pakistani POWs in India is unlikely until the deadlock between Pakistan and Bangladesh is broken by Bhutto's eventual recognition of Bangladesh.

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(The Simla summit--the first meeting between Prime Minister Gandhi and President Bhutto since the war last December--was an essential first step toward normalizing Indo-Pakistani relations and cleared the way for future talks. [REDACTED]

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